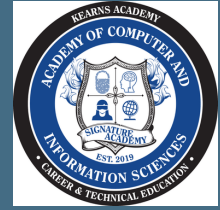


KEARNS ACADEMY NEWSLETTER



"A Rigorous Computer Science School Where Critical, Creative, and Innovative Thinking and Ideas Are Nurtured"

March 2025

Volume 3 Issue 4



As we step into March, we find ourselves at a pivotal point in the school year. The third quarter is coming to a close, and we are almost halfway through the spring semester. Just as the season begins to shift, bringing warmer days and longer hours of sunlight, we, too, have the opportunity to embrace change, renewal, and growth.

On March 8, we set our clocks ahead for Daylight Saving Time—springing forward into longer, brighter days. This serves as a great metaphor for our journey ahead: pushing forward with energy and determination as we approach the final stretch of the school year. Let's use this time to refocus, set new goals, and finish strong.

A few important dates to keep in mind:

- March 11 – Juniors will take the ACT at Kearns. This is a great opportunity for them to showcase their hard work and prepare for future success.
- March 14 – Teacher Workday. No school for students.

As we move through this month, let's also remember that kindness is both easy and free. A simple act of kindness can brighten someone's day and strengthen our school community. In the words of John Wooden, "The true test of a man's character is what he does when no one is watching." Let's make kindness a daily habit.

Spring is a time of new beginnings, fresh starts, and renewed energy. As Hal Borland once said, "No winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn." This season reminds us that no matter how long the journey is, there is always a chance to begin again with fresh determination.

Let's embrace the opportunities ahead, support one another, and finish this school year on a high note!

Thank you for your hard work and continued support of Kearns Academy, and remember to be brave, kind, and strong.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- **3/3-7** - Say Somthing Week
- **3/3-7** - Severe Weather Preparedness Week
- **3/3-7** - School Social Worker Week
- **3/8** - Daylight Savings Time (Spring Forward
- **3/11** - 11th graders take ACT
- **3/13** - End of Quarter 3
- **3/14** - **No School!!** Mandated Teacher Workday
- **3/15** - GCS SEL Community Day
- **3/17** - St. Patrick's Day
- **3/17-23** - National Drug & Alcohol Facts Week
- **3/27** - Report Card Pickup

****National Women's History Month**

Robotics Team Receives Award

We are very proud of our Robotics Team!!! In February, the Kearns Robotics Team received the Connect Award at the Robotics Tournament at Southern Guilford High School. The criteria for this award is listed below. Congratulations to everyone who participated!

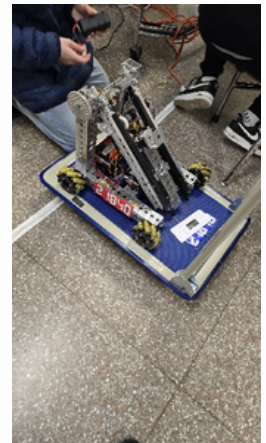
6.2.3 Connect Award

Connecting the dots between the STEM community, FIRST, and the diversity of the engineering world.

This judged award is given to the team that connects with their local science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) community. A true *FIRST* team is more than a sum of its parts and recognizes that engaging their local STEM community plays an essential part in their success. This team has a team plan and has identified steps to achieve their goals. A PORTFOLIO is not required for this award.

Table 6-4: Connect Award Criteria

Connect Award Criteria		
Required	1	Team must describe, display, or document a team plan that covers all of the following: A. The team's goals for the development of team member skills, and B. The steps the team has taken or will take to reach those goals
Encouraged	2	Provide examples of developing in person or virtual connections with individuals in the engineering, science, or technology community.
Encouraged	3	Provide examples of how it actively engages with the engineering community.



ExploreWorks Job Shadowing

On February 7th, 5 students attended an ExploreWorks Job Shadowing Event at Guilford County Government. They met with the Human Resources Department, IT Department, and the Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners. Students learn about the responsibilities of each area. They role-played as a hiring manager and had to choose the best candidate based on the scenario and the candidate's resume. They also took a tour of the old courthouse which included a tour of an old jail cell.



Robotics Team Receives Grant

Kearns Academy Robotics Team was recently named the recipient of a \$5,000.00 grant from the Truliant Foundation Education Program.

According to Mr. Marco Alzamora, Team Leader, this grant will allow the team to purchase new equipment, attend competitions, and develop innovative projects. The funding will also enhance our learning experience and provide us with the resources needed to excel in our endeavors. We are dedicated to promoting STEM education, engaging with our local community, and achieving excellence in their studies while pursuing their passion for Robotics.

With sincere gratitude, we thank Truliant Foundation for this honor and support!!!



Did You Know?



Congratulations to Ms. Karesa Watkins for being selected as Kearns Academy 2024-2025 Teacher of the Year!! Thank you for your hard work and dedication to serving our students and families each and every day! We appreciate all that you do!!



Severe Weather Preparedness Week March 2-8, 2025



With the season change to warmer weather, we begin to have the possibility of severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, high winds, hail, and flash flooding. This week helps all of us to make a plan now in preparation of those possible weather related incidents.

On Friday, March 7th at 9:30am, The National Weather Service along with local broadcasters will conduct a statewide tornado drill. For more information on how to prepare, please visit the North Carolina Department of Public Safety website at readync.gov



Say Something Week March 3-7, 2025

This week we're raising awareness bullying, violence, and self harm. Check out our Spirit Week activities in this newsletter.

For more information, please visit the Parent Brochure available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) and how this program is helping others all around the country. <https://www.sandyhookpromise.org/our-events/say-something-week/> Help us to make and keep our community safe!



March 3-7, 2025

monday

Shades of Green Day!

Wear green to raise awareness against bullying, violence, & self harm.

tuesday

I Got your Back Day!

Wear clothes backwards or inside out.

wednesday

Comfort Day!

Wear your pajamas & be a safe person for others.

thursday

Trusted Friends Day!

Dress like twins or similar to someone you trust.

friday

We Are Family Day!

Wear your Kearns gear or school colors.

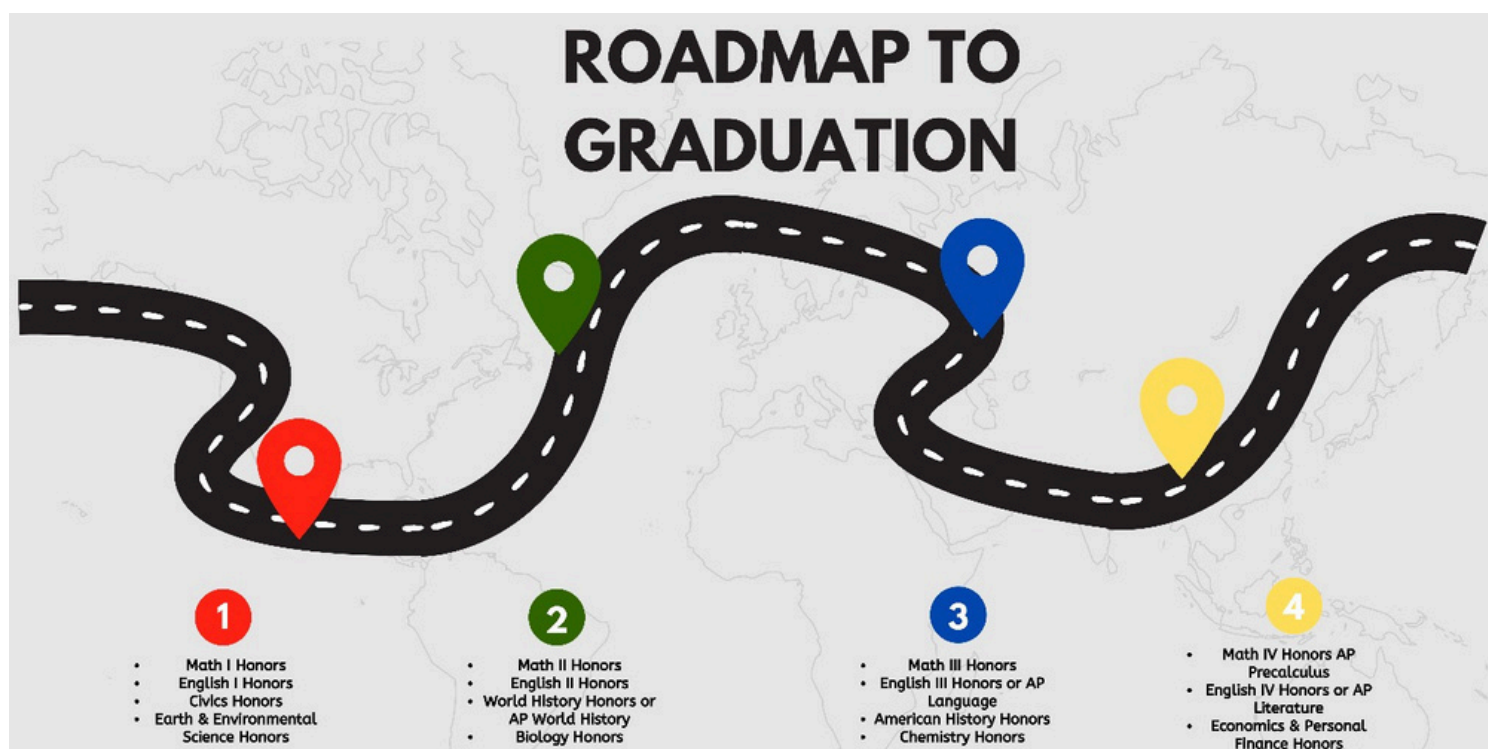




If you're not receiving emails from me, please send me an email at grahamk2@gcsnc.com, so I can add you to my email list.

It's Registration Time!

Now is the time to plan your future! Do you want to change your classes for next year? Do you want to know what you need to graduate? Do you want to graduate early? Do you want more information on GTCC classes? Now is the time! Reach out to Ms. Graham via email or in-person, to plan your future!



*Use this as a guide for your graduation requirements

GTCC Important Dates



March 7th, 2025- Students can begin viewing next year's course options on Self-Service

March 24th, 2025- New student applications due for priority deadline

April 2nd, 2025- Students can pick and email course selections for registration (instructions will be sent out)

Shoutout to the SEO Scholars!



Counselor's Page

If you ever miss any information or want to find out more about something, check out the Counseling Page, on the Kearns Academy website!

<https://nc01910393.schoolwires.net/domain/26400>

The screenshot shows the website for The Kearns Academy of Computer and Information Sciences. The navigation bar includes links for Home, About Us, Parents, Students, Staff, Academics, Resources, Contact Us, and Student Services. The Student Services dropdown menu is open, showing links for Counselor, Social Worker, District Home, Calendar, and Translate. The main content area is titled 'Kearns Academy Counseling Department' and features a sidebar for 'Counselor' with links to 'Counseling Department', '9th Grade', '10th Grade', '11th Grade', '12th Grade', and 'Resources'. The main content area also has an 'Announcements' section with three featured posters: 'START WITH HELLO', 'SAY SOMETHING', and 'SEL FAMILY & COMMUNITY DAY'.

Scholarships & Opportunities

Anna V. Waters Scholarship (<https://www.avwsf.org/apply>)

FREE Professional Summer Opportunities in NC

for Rising 10th/11th/12th Grade

There are many free or low cost opportunities to join a summer opportunity in North Carolina or other states to help shape your college or career interests.

Why Internships or Research?

You are motivated and excited to learn about an in-depth topic in an area of interest.

- Build Professional Skills and Learn Professional Interaction
- Better Refine Your Interests
- Translate the differences between how you are judged successful in classroom learning and what occurs in a professional environment.



Examples from our Full List...

Summer Ventures in Science and Math. Provides a no-cost four week summer research experience in science and mathematics at a UNC system campus (ASU, UNC-C, ECU, UNC-W) that includes housing/meals.

Bank of America Student Leaders Program Connect 225 community-minded high school juniors and seniors across the US to employment, skills development and service. They're awarded paid (paycheck!) summer internships with local nonprofits

US Army High School Apprenticeship Program. A summer STEM program practicing Department of Defense scientists with talented high school students creating a direct mentor-student relationship that provides students with training that is unparalleled at most high schools in research apprenticeships at a colleges and university nearby

Poultry Science Summer Immersion. A four-day hands-on experience (housing included) designed to broaden high school students' understanding of poultry-related educational disciplines, scholarship opportunities, careers, and industries

How to Prepare

- **Deadlines.** Most programs have deadlines January through April
- **VERIFY** any deadlines yourself; we copied deadlines as a convenience for you!
- **Remember recommendations and transcript requests.** Applications may ask for these. Ask early!
- **Tell your story.** Don't be shy. Make sure you write a complete essay and not a few sentences.



See our full list here!
bit.ly/NCSummerResearch



VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION OPENS FEB. 15TH



NEED VOLUNTEER HOURS?

Want those service learning hours? Sign up for fun at Safety Town! We need volunteers ages 12-17 to mentor 5&6 years olds at our daily summer camp, Safety Town. Safety Town is program for five and six year old children that teaches safety lessons on strangers, traffic, pedestrians, fire, bicycles, bus, poisons (including drugs), water and guns.

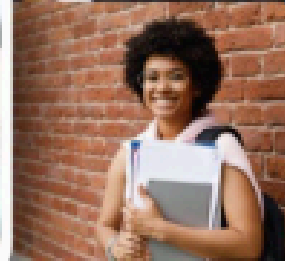
WWW.SAFETYTOWNGREENSBORO.COM



SCAN TO VOLUNTEER



2024-2025 *Sisters of the Dove* SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Now accepting applications for the following scholarships:

- **Pearl Scholarships**
 - Academic Based - \$1500
 - Character Based - \$1500
 - Financial Need - \$1500
- **The Ella B. Scarborough Political Science Scholarship - \$1500**
- **Dr. Alicia Howard Legacy Scholarship - \$1500**
- **Mel Dau Mania Book Scholarship (High School Seniors) - \$600**
(two awards available)



*Application
Deadline
**February
28th**

For eligibility requirements and to access applications,
please scan the QR code.



APPLY NOW

The Sisters of the Dove Charity Fund, Inc., in partnership with Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, Psi Mu Zeta Chapter, is pleased to announce the availability of the 2024 - 2025 Scholarships. These scholarships aim to support deserving students in the Greater Charlotte area who are pursuing higher education.

Scholarship Details:

Number of Scholarships: Five scholarships, each valued at \$1,500 and two book scholarships, each valued at \$600

Eligibility:

High School Seniors: Students currently enrolled in high school and planning to attend college.

Undergraduate Students: Current college students with demonstrated financial need.

Application Deadline: February 28, 2025.

Application Process:

Interested students should complete the application and submit the required supporting documents by the deadline. Application forms and additional details are available on our website:



START WITH HELLO

Learn how the Sandy Hook Promise program helps your student recognize and address peer loneliness and social isolation, encouraging empathy and inclusivity.

VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSION

**6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
THURSDAY
MARCH 6, 2025**

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



SAY SOMETHING

6-12th grade families

Empower your students to "say something" when they spot warning signs to help grow a community of upstanders. Learn about the Sandy Hook Promise program and how it keeps our community safe.

VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSION

12:00 - 1:00 PM
TUESDAY
MARCH 11 , 2025

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

SEL FAMILY & COMMUNITY DAY



“Skills for Success -> Ready for the Future”

Join us for the GCS SEL Family & Community Day celebration featuring free food, fun activities, and helpful resources for your family to thrive in social and emotional (SEL) wellness!

SATURDAY MARCH 15, 2025

Jamestown Middle School

301 Haynes Road, Jamestown, NC 27282

11:00am- 1:00pm

Free Food, Activities, Resources, & Prizes!

Sponsored By



...And More!

#SELday

Register Here
Scan QR Code below



Rep your school!
The school with
the highest
attendees will win
a GRAND PRIZE!!

2025-2026 UNCF STEM Scholars Program

The **UNCF STEM Scholars Program** is an initiative designed to identify and provide scholarship and academic support for African American, Hispanic American, Asian Pacific Islander American, American Indian and Alaskan Native high school students who aspire to earn STEM degrees and to pursue careers in STEM fields. The program awards 100 scholarships on an annual basis.

The application is open for high school seniors who are entering college as first-time freshmen in fall 2025.

PROGRAM BENEFITS:

Tiered tuition scholarship with funding up to \$25,000:

- Up to \$2,500 per academic year for freshmen and sophomores, \$5,000 for juniors and seniors, and an additional \$5,000 for students whose academic programs require a fifth year.
- Scholarships are renewable for five undergraduate years, contingent upon:
 - Maintenance of a 3.0 (out of 4.0) GPA + continued full-time enrollment to a degree in an eligible STEM major
- A \$5,000 stipend based on a STEM-related project/internship of the student's interest
- Academic support and mentoring
- Access to online academic support services and resource platform, as well as other STEM-discipline support services

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

To qualify, applicants must:

- Be African American, Hispanic American, Asian Pacific Islander American, American Indian/Alaskan Native
- Be a citizen, legal permanent resident, or national of the United States
- Have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 on an unweighted 4.0 scale
- Pursued a rigorous course of study in high school in math and science courses, including pre-calculus
- Have demonstrated financial and unmet need as measured by the student's college or university
- Arrange for a letter of recommendation to be submitted via the UNCF application portal

Complete and submit the application by the deadline of Monday, March 24, 2025, 5pm EST/2pm PST

To apply, visit: **UNCF.org/STEMapplication**

For questions or concerns please contact UNCF STEM Scholars Staff: **STEM.Scholars@UNCF.org**





ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY INCORPORATED - STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

2024-2025

Scholarships

State of North Carolina LaKeshia Holley Neal
Healthcare Scholarship

(One-time award of \$1,000)

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY:

- Graduating high school female senior
- Resident of North Carolina
- Cumulative GPA of at least a 3.5 unweighted
- Must plan to major in a STEM or Healthcare field of study
- Have a college/university acceptance letter(s) stating intended major
- Have involvement in community service

Applications Deadline: March 31, 2025

[LINK TO APPLY](#)